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Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 16
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

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Overall orientation

16.1 The mandate of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), which is derived from Economic and Social Council resolutions 37 (IV) and 414 (XIII) by which the Commission was established, is to promote regional cooperation for inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, a dynamic region characterized by growing wealth, diversity and change, but also challenged with persistent poverty, environmental degradation, inequality and insecurity. The role of the Commission was subsequently elaborated upon in various resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission itself.

16.2 Home to nearly two thirds of the world's population, the Asia-Pacific region has emerged as the fastest growing region in the world, and a hub for international trade, investment and technology transfer. The developing economies in the region have doubled in size in the last decade and managed to lift millions of people out of poverty. Considerable progress has been made towards achieving several of the Millennium Development Goals, especially those that relate to poverty, education, communicable diseases and access to safe water and sanitation. However, serious threats remain to the development gains made in the region and concerns have been raised about the ability of the region to withstand the threats to the progress already achieved. First, while the Asia-Pacific region managed to weather the global economic crisis in 2009, that crisis and continuing global economic uncertainties have exposed the region's vulnerability to external shocks. Furthermore, the ongoing volatility in the food, energy and financial markets show the complex and interrelated nature of modern-day economic crises. Second, the region's immense prosperity has not been shared equitably, and development gaps have steadily widened over time, while various countries of the region continue to face obstacles to strengthening the productive business capacities and competitive advantages that they need to effectively integrate themselves into the global and regional economy. Inequities, both within countries and among countries, are on the rise, exacerbated by changing population dynamics, growing urbanization and unabated migration. Third, with the ever increasing pressures on the Earth's carrying capacity, questions have been raised about the sustainability of the region's growth paradigm. Moreover, the increased frequency and virulence of natural disasters and their deep socio-economic impact have added to the concerns about the region's resilience and its capacity to protect its development gains.

16.3 These economic, social and environmental insecurities, which are occurring simultaneously, have a mutually reinforcing effect on the economic and social development of the region. Unless promptly addressed, they may not only derail decades of socio-economic progress in Asia and the Pacific, but could also lead to social and political unrest. The ability of the region to address these challenges through an inclusive and sustainable economic and social development approach will determine the nature, speed and sustainability of its development for decades to come. Furthermore, recent developments suggest that a regionally coordinated approach will be critical to increasing the region's resilience to external shocks. Given a rather uncertain and subdued medium-term economic outlook for the advanced economies in North America and in the States of the Eurozone, the Asia-Pacific region will have to rely more on domestic and regional sources to sustain its dynamism in the future. Hence, harnessing the potential of regional economic

integration will be a key policy response. The region faces shared risks and vulnerabilities to economic shocks, such as the volatility of commodities and financial markets, as well as natural disasters that tend to affect countries across borders, be it severe acute respiratory syndrome, avian flu or tsunamis. The social and economic effects of such disasters are felt beyond the countries immediately affected due to regionally integrated production networks and supply chains, as demonstrated by the recent tsunami in Japan and the floods in South-East Asia.

16.4 With such challenges ahead, Asia and the Pacific needs a strong regional platform to debate and formulate development strategies and policies. In concert with its member States, ESCAP will facilitate the provision of development advice and collective policy leadership required by countries in the region. As the regional arm of the United Nations, ESCAP is a platform for each member State, acting as a United Nations regional assembly for all. Promoting regional cooperation will be at the core of its efforts.

16.5 ESCAP will support its member States by providing sound strategic analysis, policy options and capacity development to address key development challenges and implement innovative solutions for region-wide economic prosperity, social progress, environmental sustainability and resilience to external shocks. In this, the final biennium for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, ESCAP will deepen its assistance to countries in Asia and the Pacific in stepping up their efforts in areas where progress is slow.

16.6 ESCAP will continue to pursue the key objectives shared by all of the regional commissions, namely to (a) foster economic integration at the subregional and regional levels; (b) promote the regional implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals; and (c) support regional sustainable development by helping to bridge economic, social and environmental gaps among member States and between subregions, through, among other things, trade and transport. In order to achieve those objectives, all of the regional commissions will continue to generate multilateral dialogue, knowledge sharing and networking, working together to promote intraregional and interregional cooperation, both among themselves and through collaboration with other relevant organizations.

16.7 Recognizing the complex interrelationships between economic, social and environmental issues, ESCAP, when required, with due consideration to the outcome of the final review of the conference structure of the Commission, will deepen its multisectoral and multidisciplinary approach to development, decision-making and agenda-setting. ESCAP will advocate and, upon request, assist member States in developing and in complying with a common set of internationally or regionally agreed standards, norms, conventions and development approaches, while simultaneously mobilizing the regional voice in promoting multilateral approaches to solve global problems. The Commission's advocacy work will be underpinned by evidence-based analysis to capture differences and disparities among and within countries, including between men and women, according priority to ensuring that the concerns of countries with special needs are addressed, particularly those of the least developed, landlocked developing and small island developing States. During the period 2014-2015, efforts will be intensified to effectively mainstream gender dimensions across all subprogrammes and to promote gender equality and the concerns of vulnerable groups as central to poverty reduction efforts as well as to inclusive and sustainable development.

16.8 The proposed strategic framework comprises an integrated set of eight mutually supportive and interconnected subprogrammes based on the priorities of member States. The subprogrammes of the strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 reflect continuity in the direction of work already undertaken by ESCAP during the period 2012-2013, reflecting the mandate contained in Commission resolution 67/15, the commitment of ESCAP to the development pillar of the United Nations and the Secretariat's continuing efforts to enhance organizational and development effectiveness.

16.9 With the overall goals of addressing development threats and taking note of the development priorities of the Secretary-General, the subprogrammes aim to achieve the following development results: (a) Governments of member States have more effective, inclusive and sustainable development policies to address development from a multidisciplinary perspective, narrow development gaps and build resiliency; (b) global processes are shaped by a stronger coordinated regional voice and countries are supported in implementing international commitments; and (c) regional cooperation mechanisms and institutional frameworks are in place, supported and implemented so as to promote regional integration and inclusive development.

16.10 Central to the strategy of the ESCAP programme of work is to foster regional and subregional cooperation, including South-South cooperation. The subregional offices for East and North-East Asia, North and Central Asia and South and South-West Asia, and the office for the Pacific subregion, will provide better-targeted and in-depth technical assistance to address the priorities of member States in the respective subregions in a more balanced manner.

16.11 Partnerships with multilateral entities and subregional organizations will continue to be strengthened in order to ensure an inclusive and coherent approach to addressing the concerns of the region, avoiding the duplication of efforts while building on the strengths and comparative advantages of ESCAP and complementarities with its partners. To that end, ESCAP will reinforce its leading role as the convener of the regional coordination mechanism of all the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system in the region and its active participation in the United Nations Development Group.

16.12 Overall, ESCAP will use its multidisciplinary capabilities, its strengthened regional and subregional presence, its extensive network with relevant subregional, regional and international organizations and its position as the regional arm of the United Nations to provide leadership and solutions to the critical regional and global development challenges of the twenty-first century.

Subprogramme 1
Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development

Objective of the Organization: To foster a sound macroeconomic policy environment and enhance regional economic cooperation for inclusive and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region, especially in support of poverty reduction and other internationally agreed development goals, particularly among countries with special needs

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced understanding among policymakers and other target groups of development trends, emerging issues, macroeconomic challenges and evidence-based policy options that promote economic growth, reduce poverty and narrow the development gaps	(a) Increased number of references to ESCAP publications and other activities on macroeconomic policy, finance and development in policy documents, academic literature and key media outlets
(b) Enhanced regional voice in global development forums and strengthened regional economic and financial cooperation to exploit synergies for mutual benefit towards inclusive and sustainable development, including through South-South cooperation	(b) Increased number of outcome documents and resolutions reflecting consensus on regional economic and financial cooperation that feed into global development forums
(c) Improved capacity of member States, particularly countries with special needs, to design and implement development policies for achieving the Millennium Development Goals and implementing the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and internationally agreed development goals	(c) (i) Increased percentage of participants in ESCAP activities indicating that they are better able to design and implement sound economic development policies in support of the regional implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals (ii) Increased number of government policies, programmes and initiatives that reflect principles or recommendations advanced by ESCAP to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed targets
(d) Improved capacity of member States to formulate and implement rural development policies that promote sustainable agriculture and food security	(d) Increased percentage of participants in the work of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture indicating that they are better able to formulate and implement rural development policies that promote sustainable agriculture and food security

Strategy

16.13 The substantive responsibility for the subprogramme will lie with the Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division, with support from the Centre for

Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture. Under the subprogramme, the secretariat will be responsible for mainstreaming the development needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States into the work of ESCAP, particularly its work in reducing poverty, eliminating disparities and fostering greater integration into the regional economic growth process. The strategic direction of the subprogramme is imbedded in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the resolutions contained in the list of mandates.

16.14 With its substantive emphasis on strengthening the capacities of countries to formulate and implement inclusive and sustainable development policies in support of the internationally agreed development goals, the subprogramme will monitor macroeconomic trends and prospects towards reducing poverty and narrowing development gaps, promote capacity development in the countries with special needs in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, assist in the graduation process of the least developed countries, strengthen regional cooperation in addressing medium- to long-term development challenges and support sustainable agriculture and food security in the region aimed at reducing poverty in rural communities. The efforts will be further augmented by the regional advisory services provided to member States through the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture on the alleviation of poverty, food security and sustainable agriculture. Special emphasis will be placed on efforts to promote greater regional integration and resiliency through increased economic growth, to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in ways that reduce economic and social disparities within as well as across countries, with due attention to the gender dimension, to foster a regional coordinated voice on various global processes on development issues and challenges and on financial issues, including the outcomes of the summits of the Group of Twenty (G-20), and to explore innovations in strengthening collaboration and identifying regional synergies/complementarities in promoting sustainable agriculture and food security.

16.15 A specific set of key modalities will be followed in implementing the programme of work. Regional cooperation as well as South-South cooperation, which will continue to be the key modalities in bringing countries together, will include policy dialogues and policy advocacy to address common development issues and fill development gaps, particularly those of countries with special needs. The Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism will be utilized to achieve greater coherence and effectiveness with other United Nations organizations and the specialized agencies in delivering a common set of services to member States. The Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture will provide a regional platform to promote synergy and complementarities in research and capacity-building on sustainable agriculture and food security across member States, thus further extending the outreach of the subprogramme.

16.16 The subprogramme will work closely with other subprogrammes, and with a targeted subregional focus, to: incorporate multisectoral and subregional perspectives into its activities addressing policy issues and challenges in order to enhance regional financial and economic cooperation to assist the Asia-Pacific

region through increased capital availability for the development of an economically viable and socially inclusive infrastructure based on public-private partnership; address the challenges of countries with special needs; promote activities to improve the food security of and nutrition for the poorest and most vulnerable people in the region; and support the annual publication of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*.

Subprogramme 2
Trade and investment

Objective of the Organization: To enhance trade, investment, enterprise development and technology transfer for inclusive and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced knowledge of trends, emerging issues, and evidence-based policy options in the areas of trade, investment, enterprise development and technology transfer in support of inclusive and sustainable development by ESCAP member States	(a) (i) Increased number of references to ESCAP publications, related materials and activities in the area of trade and investment, in the policy-related literature and key media outlets (ii) Increased number of references to ESCAP publications, related materials and activities on technology transfer and agricultural mechanization in the policy-related literature and key media outlets
(b) Strengthened regional cooperation in trade, investment, enterprise development, innovation and the development and transfer of technology in support of inclusive and sustainable development	(b) (i) Number of ESCAP member States participating in or indicating that they find regional cooperation mechanisms in trade and investment fostered by ESCAP useful for their country (ii) Number of ESCAP member States participating in or indicating that they find regional cooperation mechanisms promoted by the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology and the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery to foster innovation and develop and transfer technology, including in the area of agricultural mechanization, useful for their country (iii) Increased coverage and depth of commitment under the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement and/or the expansion of membership in the Agreement

(c) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement more effective and coherent policies on trade, investment, enterprise development and technology transfer in support of inclusive and sustainable development	(c) (i) Percentage of participants in ESCAP activities and initiatives indicating that they have increased their capacity to formulate or implement more effective and coherent policies on trade, investment and enterprise development (ii) Percentage of participants in activities of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology and the United Nations Asian and Paci[illegible] Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery indicating that they have increased their capacity to formulate or implement more effective and coherent policies to foster innovation and develop and transfer technology, including in the area of agricultural mechanization

Strategy

16.17 The substantive responsibility for the subprogramme will lie with the Trade and Investment Division, with support from the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology and the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery. The strategic direction of the subprogramme is derived mainly from the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the Almaty Programme of Action and the resolutions contained in the list of mandates.

16.18 To meet its objectives, the subprogramme will be implemented through a combination of analytical and capacity-building work on trade, investment, enterprise development, sustainable agricultural innovation and mechanization and technology transfer, with a particular view to enhancing the contribution of trade and investment to meet the Millennium Development Goals, in particular Goal 8, to develop a global partnership for development. The focus of the analytical work is to provide inputs for evidence-based policymaking and the sharing of experience on related policy reforms. With regard to capacity-building efforts, special attention will be accorded to: (a) strengthening the capacity of policymakers and practitioners in trade, investment, enterprise development and technology transfer, particularly their ability to effectively negotiate, conclude and implement multilateral and other trade and investment agreements; (b) formulation and implementation of coherent policies in support of enhanced intraregional and interregional trade and investment; (c) design and implementation of appropriate trade facilitation and trade finance policies and measures; (d) formulation and implementation of effective policy measures to strengthen corporate sustainability and responsibility with a view to enhancing the contribution of the private sector, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises and agro-based enterprises, to inclusive and sustainable development; and (e) establishment and strengthening of common frameworks and mechanisms that advance regional integration in trade, investment, technology transfer and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, including agricultural enterprises, in support of the multilateral trading system and other relevant multilateral agreements. The deepening, expansion and strengthening of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement will form a key pillar of the work of the

subprogramme. In addition, regional cooperation among research institutions and think tanks will be deepened through the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade, which will operate as a regional knowledge platform for trade and investment reform, while the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific will be an important regional cooperation mechanism for trade facilitation. The proposed Asia-Pacific network for the testing of agricultural machines would play an important role in promoting and facilitating trade of sustainable and safe agricultural machinery. The Asia-Pacific Business Forum will be the principal mechanism for engaging the private sector and exploring the establishment of public-private partnerships to pursue inclusive and sustainable development. Synergy between this subprogramme and other subprogrammes of the Commission will be maximized, in particular with subprogramme 3, Transport, in order to facilitate trade and transit in the region.

16.19 The Commission will collaborate at the regional, subregional and national levels with the agencies of the United Nations system and with other bilateral and multilateral agencies. In particular, in the area of trade and trade-related policies, partnerships will be strengthened with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Asian Development Bank Institute, the World Bank, the World Intellectual Property Organization and the International Trade Centre. In the area of trade facilitation, stronger collaboration will be established with the regional commissions, UNCTAD, WTO, the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization; and in the areas of investment, technology transfer and enterprise development, partnerships will be strengthened with UNCTAD, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Global Compact Office, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Asian Development Bank.

Subprogramme 3
Transport

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen regional cooperation and integration in transport for inclusive and sustainable development in the ESCAP region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced knowledge and increased capacity of ESCAP member States to develop and implement transport policies and programmes	(a) Increased number of government policies, programmes and initiatives that reflect transport-related principles or recommendations promoted by ESCAP
(b) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States and the private sector to plan and develop international intermodal transport linkages, including the Asian Highway network, the Trans-Asian Railway network and dry ports of international importance	(b) (i) Number of national projects and programmes to upgrade regional transport infrastructure, including the Asian Highway network, the Trans-Asian Railway network and dry ports of international importance (ii) Increased number of accessions by ESCAP member States to global, regional and subregional agreements

(c) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States and the private sector to implement measures to improve the efficiency of international transport operations and logistics	(c) (i) Increased number of initiatives to remove non-physical bottlenecks and facilitate the efficient movement of people, goods and vehicles along transport routes and at border crossings (ii) Increased number of countries with training programmes on freight forwarding, multimodal transport and logistics

Strategy

16.20 The substantive responsibility for this subprogramme will lie with the Transport Division. The strategic direction of the subprogramme is derived from the resolutions contained in the list of mandates. Direction would also be derived from meetings of ministers of transport convened by ESCAP.

16.21 The subprogramme will support member States in working towards the vision of an efficient international, integrated, intermodal transport and logistics system connecting the Asia-Pacific region. In particular, it will aim to support the efforts of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in addressing the special transport challenges they face. In this regard, the Transport Division will strengthen cooperation with subregional offices to foster transport cooperation at that level and with other Divisions and Offices, in particular with the Trade and Investment Division, to improve coordination on trade and transport facilitation measures; with the Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division to promote the use of information and communications technology (ICT) applications for transport operations; with the Environment and Development Division to raise awareness and build capacity in environmentally sustainable transport; with the Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division to study and promote new approaches to financing transport infrastructure; with the subregional office for North and Central Asia to support the activities of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia working group on transport and border crossing; and with the ESCAP office for the Pacific to analyse and identify policy options for inter-island shipping. The secretariat will also continue to cooperate with other organizations that are active in the development of the region's transport systems.

16.22 During the biennium 2014-2015, the subprogramme will focus on enhancing knowledge and providing policy guidance on transport policies and programmes in various areas of transport development. In particular, it will support member States in their efforts to use the Asian Highway network, the Trans-Asian Railway network and internationally recognized dry ports as the basis for planning transport development and promoting trade, including along the Euro-Asian transport linkages. This will involve, inter alia, continuing to act as secretariat for the intergovernmental agreements on the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks. The subprogramme will also support cooperation between member States to identify and address non-physical bottlenecks, improve the efficiency of transport logistics and related activities in the region and promote improved connectivity between regions and subregions. In order to maximize the impact of its activities, and taking into account the findings of the independent evaluation of the Regional Action

Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2007-2011), the secretariat will apply a "holistic approach" to its subprogramme so that various activities contribute to sustainable and inclusive transport development in the region.

Subprogramme 4
Environment and development

Objective of the Organization: To improve the sustainability, resilience and inclusiveness of societies in Asia and the Pacific, including through promoting quality of growth

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced understanding by local and national Governments of environmental, energy and water and urban policies and strategies for poverty reduction and inclusive and sustainable development	(a) Number of references to ESCAP publications, policy briefs, projects and related activities in policy documents, declarations and statements and in key media outlets showing an increased understanding of environmental, energy and water and urban policies and strategies for inclusive and sustainable development
(b) Improved capacity of Governments and other stakeholders in developing and implementing environmental, energy and water and urban policies and strategies for inclusive and sustainable development	(b) Number of policies, strategies and initiatives developed by Governments and other stakeholders reasonably attributable to ESCAP interventions in the areas of environment, energy and water and urban policies and strategies for inclusive and sustainable development
(c) Strengthened regional cooperation and networking on environmental, energy and water and urban policies and strategies for inclusive and sustainable development	(c) Number of outcome documents, recommendations and initiatives from ESCAP member States and other key actors on regional cooperation issues related to environment, energy security, water resources management and urban development

Strategy

16.23 The substantive responsibility for the subprogramme will lie with the Environment and Development Division. The strategic direction of the subprogramme is mainly derived from the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of other relevant United Nations conferences. The outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which will be held from 20 to 22 June 2012, will also be taken into account in determining the future direction of the subprogramme.

16.24 The subprogramme will build on the previous achievements of ESCAP in supporting countries of the region in their efforts to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development. The subprogramme will facilitate the exchange of information among members and associate members regarding national strategies

and best practices in support of green growth and, if requested, will further assist in developing national strategies in this regard. It will also undertake related policy initiatives through strengthened regional cooperation for widening access to basic services to all, enhanced energy security, efficient management of energy and water resources and sustainable urban development. The subprogramme will take a balanced approach to the three areas of energy security and water resources; environment and development policy; and sustainable urban development.

16.25 The subprogramme will focus on improving the integration of all pillars of sustainable development, economic, social and environmental, and to increase quantity and improve quality of growth in order to reduce the impact of external economic and financial shocks, resource crises characterized by the commodity price volatility and ecological crises.

16.26 In this regard, in order to enhance understanding and improve national capacities, regional cooperation among countries and member States efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, ESCAP, through the dissemination of analytical studies, policy advocacy and capacity development and regional policy dialogues will facilitate:

(a) The process of increasing the growth and the quality of the growth, of Asian and Pacific economies;

(b) Investing in the protection of a natural resources base of economic and social significance, which is critical for food security, environment and sustainable development;

(c) Promoting sustainable urban development and infrastructure.

16.27 The subprogramme will help member countries fulfil their national and regional sustainable development goals by addressing these multiple environmental and socio-economic challenges in an integrated, holistic and inclusive manner. It will target policymakers at all levels and the operational staff of national and local Governments. It will also advocate for the active and meaningful involvement of other stakeholders, including civil society.

16.28 The subprogramme will focus on developing innovative strategies and documenting, analysing and disseminating policy options and good practices, taking into account gender-specific considerations. The efforts will be further augmented by the provision of capacity development support to member States, including through training, publications and online learning facilities. The subprogramme will use innovative and pragmatic approaches to promote more efficient use of resources, including energy and water, increased investment in natural and human capital and decoupling economic and social development from environmental degradation, such as regional and local pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. The strategy will contribute to reducing poverty and gender inequality and advocate enhanced access to basic infrastructure and services for all. It will also support the efforts of urban and rural communities to increase their resilience to climate change.

16.29 To achieve the above strategies, ESCAP will collaborate with other United Nations agencies (including through the regional cooperation mechanism), intergovernmental organizations, public-private partnerships, community-based organizations, research institutes and external support agencies. The subprogramme will undertake multisectoral work jointly with other subprogrammes to promote the

quality of growth, enhance disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, strategies and mechanisms, develop and support measures to increase and focus finance for inclusive and sustainable development, and strengthen data collection and analysis. The subprogramme will also assist the subregional offices with the subregional initiatives of the North East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation and of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia to strengthen subregional cooperation in these fields.

Subprogramme 5
Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen ICT connectivity and enhance regional cooperation and capacity for improved disaster risk reduction and management and associated socio-economic risks towards an inclusive and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved capacity of member States to measure and analyse progress towards an inclusive and resilient information society	(a) (i) Increased percentage of policymakers who indicated enhanced knowledge and skills to formulate policies and strategies in the field of ICT and disaster risk reduction, including gender dimensions (ii) Increased number of government policies, strategies, programmes, projects and initiatives that reflect ESCAP-promoted principles and recommendations in the area of ICT and disaster risk reduction
(b) Strengthened regional cooperation in ICT connectivity for the promotion of inclusive and sustainable development	(b) Increased number of ESCAP member States deriving benefits from ESCAP-promoted regional cooperation mechanisms devoted to ICT connectivity, including space applications and disaster risk reduction
(c) Improved knowledge and awareness of member States of effective policies and strategies in disaster risk reduction in the region	(c) Increased percentage of ESCAP member States participating in ESCAP activities indicating that they are better able to assess, prepare for and manage disaster risks
(d) Strengthened capacity of member States to apply ICT for inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development policies and programmes	(d) (i) Percentage of participants in activities of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development who indicated that they are better able to apply ICT for socio-economic development

	(ii) Increased number of national training initiatives that reflect or incorporate training modules developed by the Training Centre

Strategy

16.30 The substantive responsibility for the subprogramme will lie with the Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, with support from the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development. The strategic direction for the subprogramme derives from the resolutions contained in the list of mandates. The subprogramme will support and strengthen the subsidiary Committee on Information and Communications Technology and Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction of the Commission as the basis for regional consensus building for action and an effective mechanism to contribute to the global mandates.

16.31 The subprogramme will continue to promote regional cooperation in ICT connectivity for the creation of an inclusive, knowledge-based society that is resilient to the multiple, complex and interrelated threats posed by disasters. The subprogramme will promote integrated and people-centred approaches by providing member States with socio-economic analysis on rapid advances in ICT, emerging trends, new forms of social networking and communication and new digital divides, especially between rapidly developing economies and the least developed countries and other countries with special needs. The subprogramme will provide policy options and recommendations on digital inclusion and on fostering an inclusive and resilient knowledge society in Asia and the Pacific. These efforts will be further augmented by ICT capacity-building activities conducted by the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development.

16.32 The subprogramme will improve the capabilities of member States to create more disaster resilient societies. The emphasis will be on enhancing regional knowledge and knowledge-sharing, strengthening capacities to manage risks and vulnerabilities and reducing the socio-economic impacts of disasters. The subprogramme would provide member States with analysis, strategies and policy options in the area of disaster risk reduction, including climate change adaptation, while promoting inclusive and sustainable development. The efforts will be further augmented by the regional advisory services on disaster risk reduction policies provided to member States, the development of an integrated regional early warning system by the ESCAP Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian Countries and capacity-building activities of the established regional mechanisms in the area of ICT, including space-based applications, in support of inclusive and sustainable development.

16.33 As a strategy, the subprogramme will build on the comparative advantages and multisectoral strengths of ESCAP in promoting cooperation among member States towards inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific. In this regard, the subprogramme will collaborate with other subprogrammes, including: statistics for monitoring of regional ICT trends, risks and vulnerabilities; trade and investment and transport, to address ICT for trade and transport facilitation; environment and development, to address disaster risk reduction and related climate change adaptation, sustainable urban development and

water resources management; social development with regard to social issues related to disasters, including the integration of gender and disability dimensions; and macroeconomic policy and inclusive development concerning disaster risks and the effects of disasters on socio-economic development in order to provide comprehensive regional disaster risk reduction policy options that empower member States to increase efforts towards disaster resiliency. The subprogramme will link with the subregional offices, in particular the subregional offices for East and North-east Asia and for North and Central Asia, for analysis of disaster risk reduction and development issues specific to the subregions.

16.34 Strategic partnerships will be built with the International Telecommunication Union, the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and other relevant United Nations system entities to enhance coherence across the United Nations system, as well as with regional and subregional organizations, civil society and the private sector to support the above initiatives.

Subprogramme 6
Social development

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen regional cooperation in building a socially inclusive society that protects, empowers and ensures equality for all social groups in Asia and the Pacific

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased knowledge and awareness of social development and population trends and policies in the region, including their gender dimensions, as a basis for effective decision-making by ESCAP member States	(a) (i) Number of references made by member States to the usefulness of social development and population policy options, strategies and good practices promoted by ESCAP as a basis for policymaking and programming (ii) Percentage of recipients of ESCAP publications and reports who indicate that their knowledge and awareness of social development and population trends, policies and good practices have been enhanced (iii) Percentage of recipients of relevant ESCAP publications and reports who indicate that their knowledge and awareness of the gender dimensions of social development and population trends, policies and good practices have been enhanced

(b) Enhanced regional cooperation and capacity in implementing international commitments to promote social integration and social protection, particularly for vulnerable social groups, in Asia and the Pacific	(b)	(i) Number of resolutions, decisions and recommendations adopted by ESCAP member States that reflect regional consensus on advancing the implementation of international commitments to promote social integration and social protection, particularly for vulnerable social groups, including youth, older persons and persons living with, affected by and vulnerable to HIV
		(ii) Number of regional and subregional frameworks, partnerships and arrangements established for cooperation to promote social integration and social protection, particularly for vulnerable social groups, including youth, older persons and persons living with, affected by and vulnerable to HIV
(c) Enhanced regional cooperation and capacity in implementing international commitments to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in Asia and the Pacific	(c)	(i) Number of recommendations and decisions, as well as initiatives undertaken by ESCAP member States, towards strengthening regional and subregional frameworks and arrangements for cooperation to promote gender equality and women's empowerment
		(ii) Percentage of Government participants indicating that their knowledge and skills have been enhanced as a result of ESCAP capacity development activities and knowledge products on gender equality and women's empowerment, including for gender mainstreaming throughout their policies and programmes
(d) Enhanced regional cooperation and capacity to promote the rights of persons with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific	(d)	(i) Number of recommendations and decisions, as well as initiatives undertaken by ESCAP member States, towards strengthening regional and subregional frameworks for cooperation to promote the rights of persons with disabilities
		(ii) Percentage of Government participants indicating that their knowledge and skills have been enhanced as a result of ESCAP capacity development activities and knowledge products on disability

Strategy

16.35 The substantive responsibility for the subprogramme will lie with the Social Development Division. The strategic direction of the subprogramme derives mainly from the commitments agreed upon as part of relevant United Nations intergovernmental processes, including the World Summit for Social Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the 2002 Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, the World Programme of Action on Youth, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the commitments adopted in 2010 by the General Assembly in its outcome document "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals" and the "Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS". Regional mandates that guide the subprogramme include the outcome document of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012 and the Bangkok Declaration on the 15-year review of the Fourth World Conference on Women. The outcomes of the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference and the Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Assessment of Progress against Commitments in the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS and the Millennium Development Goals and the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Second Regional Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing will also provide direction to the subprogramme.

16.36 The subprogramme will aim to promote change at the policy and institutional levels. The main target group of the subprogramme will be Government officials and institutions, particularly those involved in the formulation, implementation and management of social development policies and programmes. The strategy will focus on the conduct of applied research, analysis and dissemination of results on social policy options, strategies and programmes as a basis for decision-making by Governments. Good practices on social protection systems, particularly for the most vulnerable groups in society, will be analysed and documented for the purpose of adaptation and wider replication in the region. The Commission's convening role, particularly with regard to promoting regional cooperation and consensus building on accelerating the implementation of international commitments to promote gender equality and social integration of vulnerable groups, will be emphasized. Technical assistance to developing countries, including those in special situations, will be intensified to build national capacity through the transfer of knowledge and skills on a range of social development issues. The subprogramme will adopt a multipronged strategy that incorporates cross-cutting issues, including gender-responsiveness and a rights-based approach, into policies and programmes. Partnerships will be strengthened with a range of stakeholders, including civil society organizations and research institutes. The subprogramme will coordinate closely with other United Nations entities and international organizations to achieve synergy and ensure greater impact in the region.

16.37 Within the overall ESCAP programme of work, given the cross-cutting nature of social development work, the subprogramme will also link its work closely with other subprogrammes, including: statistics to support evidence-based policies;

environment to support the social pillar of sustainable development; disaster risk reduction to integrate the gender and disability dimensions; and macroeconomic policy and development to strengthen the social dimensions of the annual publication of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*. To extend outreach, and to ensure greater depth of the Commission's work, the subprogramme will work with the subregional offices, particularly in analysing subregional perspectives on social issues of particular significance to each subregion within a regional framework.

Subprogramme 7
Statistics

Objective of the Organization: To improve the use of statistics for evidence-based decision-making and to develop and disseminate quality statistics for inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies in the ESCAP region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced understanding among decision makers and members of the public of development trends and emerging issues to promote inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies	(a) (i) Percentage of national decision makers and members of the public who indicate that they found ESCAP analytical outputs relevant and useful in monitoring and understanding key development trends and emerging issues and deciding on related policies (ii) Increased number of downloads of online statistical products provided by ESCAP
(b) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to produce, disseminate and use statistics in accordance with internationally agreed standards and good practices in support of progress towards inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies	(b) (i) Percentage of participants in relevant ESCAP activities who indicate that they were able to apply the knowledge gained for the better provision and use of comparable data (ii) Percentage of official statisticians from national statistical systems trained by the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific who indicate that they are better able to produce timely and high-quality data and services

Strategy

16.38 The substantive responsibility for the subprogramme lies with the Statistics Division, with support from the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific. The strategic direction of the subprogramme derives from the resolutions contained in the list of mandates.

16.39 Through a balanced combination of normative, analytical and technical cooperation activities, the subprogramme will support national statistical systems in the Asia and Pacific region to improve the production and dissemination of key demographic, social, economic and environmental statistics, including the Millennium Development Goal indicators, in accordance with internationally agreed standards and good practices, and will promote the effective use of statistics by policymakers and members of the public in pursuing inclusive and sustainable development. Given that the priorities of the subprogramme are closely linked to those of other subprogrammes, it will collaborate with the Social Development Division in promoting the collection of data on disabilities in support of rights-based and barrier-free societies and gender equality and social integration through the use of gender statistics and in strengthening civil registration and vital statistics systems in the region. The subprogramme, in collaboration with the Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division and Trade and Investment Division, will promote the availability and use of economic and agriculture statistics for evidence-based policymaking. Together with the Information and Communications Technology and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, the subprogramme will strengthen societies' resilience through the collection and improvement of disaster risk data. Moreover, the subprogramme will support efforts to enhance the sustainability of development by working with the Environment and Development Division on improving the availability and use of urban and environmental statistics. The subregional offices will be engaged in the development and implementation of statistics-related activities of particular interest to their respective subregions.

16.40 During the biennium 2014-2015, the subprogramme will continue to: (a) promote the use of statistics for evidence-based decision-making; (b) support the development of demographic, economic, social and environmental statistics; (c) facilitate the implementation of existing and new international standards, including the new economic and social classifications and the revised system of national accounts; and (d) support the development of the capacity of national statistical systems to collect, produce, disseminate and use statistics in accordance with internationally agreed standards and good practices; and (e) strengthen statistical cooperation and information exchange at the regional and interregional levels. In particular, the subprogramme will focus on improving the availability and quality of data for measuring progress in areas such as social inclusion and gender equality. The subprogramme will also increase its collaboration with other subprogrammes with the aim of improving the quality and impact of the secretariat's analytical outputs and products.

16.41 To enhance coherence across the United Nations system and coordination among international agencies, the subprogramme will cooperate closely with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and other relevant United Nations entities, development banks and funds, regional and subregional organizations and other statistics development partners and networks, in particular through the newly established Partners for Statistics Development in Asia-Pacific.

Subprogramme 8
Subregional activities for development

Component 1
Subregional activities for development in the Pacific

Objective of the Organization: To effectively address the priority areas of the Pacific subregion in the formulation and implementation of inclusive and sustainable development policies for the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 and the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased capacity to formulate and implement concrete and additional measures at the national and/or subregional level to effectively address the vulnerabilities and development needs of Pacific island countries and territories	(a) Number of member States who indicate that they found ESCAP activities relevant and useful in formulating and implementing policies and programmes to address vulnerabilities and development needs
(b) The Pacific island countries and territories are able to influence the work of regional and global sustainable development policy forums and processes	(b) Increase in the number of strategic sustainable development policy objectives and initiatives of the Pacific island developing countries that are coordinated with or through the ESCAP subregional office for the Pacific
(c) Strengthened intraregional cooperation and integration for the promotion of inclusive and sustainable development, including through South-South cooperation	(c) Increase in the number of South-South cooperation initiatives between the Pacific and Asia facilitated with or through the ESCAP subregional office for the Pacific that promote inclusive and sustainable development

Component 2
Subregional activities for development in East and North-East Asia

Objective of the Organization: To effectively address the priority areas of the East and North-East Asian subregion in the formulation and implementation of inclusive and sustainable development policies for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, that address sustainable development, taking into account the green growth approach and energy efficiency, ICT, disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management, poverty reduction and infrastructure development	(a) Increased percentage of participants who indicate that they found ESCAP activities relevant and useful in formulating and implementing policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in East and North-East Asia

(b) Strengthened knowledge-sharing and partnerships among member States, regional organizations, civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in East and North-East Asia to support the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals	(b) (i) Percentage of member States indicating that collaboration on the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals among member States, civil society or other relevant development partners in East and North-East Asia has increased (ii) Increased number of partner institutions from East and North-East Asia participating in knowledge-sharing activities facilitated by ESCAP

Component 3
Subregional activities for development in North and Central Asia

Objective of the Organization: To effectively address the priority areas of the North and Central Asian subregion in the formulation and implementation of inclusive and sustainable development policies for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased capacity of ESCAP member States to formulate and implement development policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, that address transport and trade facilitation and water, energy and the environment	(a) Increased percentage of participants who indicate that they found ESCAP activities relevant and useful in formulating and implementing policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in North and Central Asia
(b) Strengthened knowledge-sharing and partnerships among member States, regional organizations, civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in North and Central Asia to support the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals	(b) (i) Percentage of member States indicating that collaboration on the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals among member States, civil society or other relevant development partners in North and Central Asia has increased (ii) Increased number of partner institutions from North and Central Asia participating in knowledge-sharing activities facilitated by ESCAP

Component 4
Subregional activities for development in South and South-West Asia

Objective of the Organization: To effectively address the priority areas of the South and South-West Asian subregion in the formulation and implementation of inclusive and sustainable development policies for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States in South and South-West Asia to formulate and implement development policies and programmes to address their key development challenges and to harness the potential of regional and South-South cooperation, with a special focus on countries with special needs in the subregion	(a) (i) Increased percentage of participants who indicate that they found ESCAP activities relevant and useful in formulating and implementing policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in South and South-West Asia (ii) Increased number of references to the Commission's work in key subregional media in South and South-West Asia
(b) Strengthened knowledge-sharing and partnerships among member States, regional organizations, civil society and other relevant development partners to address key priority areas in South and South-West Asia to support the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals	(b) (i) Percentage of member States indicating that collaboration on the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals among member States, civil society and other relevant development partners in South and South-West Asia has increased (ii) Increased number of partner institutions from South and South-West Asia participating in knowledge-sharing activities facilitated by ESCAP

Component 5
Subregional activities for development in South-East Asia

Objective of the Organization: To effectively address the priority areas of the South-East Asian subregion in the formulation and implementation of inclusive and sustainable development policies for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of ESCAP member States in South-East Asia to formulate and implement development policies and programmes to address their key development challenges, with particular focus on countries with special needs in South-East Asia	(a) Increased percentage of participants who indicate that they found ESCAP activities relevant and useful in formulating and implementing policies and programmes, including those with a gender dimension, to address key priority areas in South-East Asia

(b) Strengthened partnerships and knowledge-sharing among member States, regional organizations, civil society and other relevant development partners in addressing key priority areas in South-East Asia in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals	(b) Increased number of collaborative initiatives involving member States, civil society or other key development partners from South-East Asia facilitated by ESCAP

Strategy

16.42 The overall responsibility for coordinating the work of the subprogramme will lie with the Office of the Executive Secretary. Activities will be implemented by the ESCAP subregional offices for the Pacific, East and North-East Asia, North and Central Asia, South and South-West Asia and, for activities for the South-East Asian subregion, by the concerned substantive divisions at ESCAP headquarters in Bangkok. Internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, the Almaty Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States provide the mandates and strategic direction for the subprogramme. In determining its direction for the period 2014-2015, the subprogramme will also take into account the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which will be held in June 2012. The subprogramme will also coordinate closely with the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia.

16.43 Given the vast coverage and diversity of the Asian and Pacific region, the subprogramme would strengthen the Commission's presence and strategic position at the subregional level, enabling better targeting and delivery of programmes that address specific key priorities of member States in the five subregions.

16.44 Each component of the subprogramme reflects the specific needs of the relevant subregion within the context of existing subregional cooperation frameworks and the institutional landscape. In support of the implementation of the work of the subprogramme, ESCAP will further operationalize its analytical and normative work, supporting capacity development through technical cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, among ESCAP member States, and through the provision, on request, of advisory services. Emphasis will be placed on knowledge-sharing and networking, including the dissemination of good practices for adaptation, experience sharing and replication. The subprogramme will collect data and produce subregional analysis on identified priority areas in order to ensure greater depth and coverage of the secretariat's knowledge products.

16.45 The subregional office for the Pacific will assist member States in the following priority areas, which are guided by the United Nations Pacific agenda, which was agreed upon at the meeting between the Secretary-General and the Pacific Islands Forum leaders on 7 September 2011, the Mauritius Strategy and through joint programming with other ESCAP subprogrammes:

(a) National planning for sustainable development, including the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development outcomes;

(b) Supporting resilience to climate change, natural disasters and ocean acidification;

(c) Capacity development of national statistical systems, with a focus on gender statistics;

(d) Infrastructure, trade and transport facilitation, including connectivity.

16.46 The Commission's work in the Pacific will be implemented through a multidisciplinary and normative approach. To enhance coherence, coordination and responsiveness, the subregional office for the Pacific will prioritize joint planning and collaboration with the Bangkok-based subprogrammes and will cooperate closely with other subregional offices and regional institutes. The office will actively participate in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) processes and build synergy with the operations of other United Nations agencies while fostering closer cooperation with Pacific intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders. The subregional office for the Pacific will work closely with the Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific, in particular the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community through the Sustainable Development Working Group.

16.47 The subregional office for East and North-East Asia will assist member States in the following priority areas identified by the ad hoc intergovernmental meeting on the new ESCAP subregional offices:

(a) Sustainable development, taking into account the green growth approach, and energy efficiency, including the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation;

(b) ICT, disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management;

(c) Poverty reduction, including food security;

(d) Infrastructure, trade and transport facilitation, including connectivity.

16.48 The office will work closely with the Bangkok-based subprogrammes on the above priority areas and will build synergy with the three ESCAP regional institutions in the region — the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communications Technology for Development, the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery. The office will actively participate in the UNDAF processes for countries in the subregion in order to build synergy with relevant United Nations agencies, intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders.

16.49 The subregional office for North and Central Asia will assist member States in the following priority areas:

(a) Bridging the gaps in the Millennium Development Goals (environmental sustainability);

(b) Transport and trade facilitation: developing better transport links, including Euro-Asian transport corridors; transit transport cooperation, including improved border crossing; the introduction of trade facilitation measures; and the reduction of trade barriers;

(c) Water, energy and environment: management of water and energy resources, protection of the environment and climate change adaptation;

(d) Activities of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia aimed at strengthening subregional cooperation in the areas of transport, water and energy, trade, statistics, knowledge-based development and gender and economy.

16.50 The subregional office for South and South-West Asia will assist member States in the following priority areas:

(a) Bridging the gaps in the Millennium Development Goals (poverty and related areas) with inclusive growth;

(b) Infrastructure development with a focus on transport, trade and transport facilitation, including connectivity and regional economic integration;

(c) Disaster risk reduction, including drought and earthquakes;

(d) Energy and food security.

16.51 The activities for South-East Asia are undertaken by the Bangkok-based substantive divisions aiming to increase resilience to the financial crises and natural disasters that have severely affected the subregion. The subprogramme will continue to strengthen regional cooperation, working closely together with subregional organizations, in particular ASEAN, and with other United Nations funds, agencies and programmes to bridge development gaps and to enhance regional-level coherence of policies and programmes to benefit member States.

16.52 ESCAP will build strategic partnerships with other key intergovernmental institutions and development actors in the subregions, such as ASEAN, the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation, the Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and will develop and implement programmes in a coherent and coordinated manner, utilizing the full assets of the United Nations development system at the subregional and national levels to bridge key development gaps.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
57/270 A and B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
61/16	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
62/208	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
62/277	System-wide coherence
63/11	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
63/15	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
63/35	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations
63/114	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference
63/144	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
63/200	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum
63/233	High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
63/239	Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus
63/306	Multilingualism
63/311	System-wide coherence
64/1	High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
64/183	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
64/186	Building connectivity through the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway (subprogrammes 1, 5, 6 and 8)
64/193	Follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the 2008 Review Conference (Doha Declaration on Financing for Development) (subprogrammes 1, 2, 4 and 6)
64/222	Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
64/289	System-wide coherence

65/1	Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals
65/124	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
65/125	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
65/128	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
65/129	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
65/140	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference
65/146	Innovative mechanisms of financing for development (subprogrammes 1, 2, 4 and 6)
65/163	United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)
65/214	Human rights and extreme poverty
65/235	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations
65/280	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020
65/309	Happiness: towards a holistic approach to development
65/311	Multilingualism
65/316	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum
66/13	The situation in Afghanistan
66/155	The right to development
66/191	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development (subprogrammes 1, 2, 4 and 6)
66/195	Agricultural technology for development (subprogrammes 1, 2, 4 and 6)
66/210	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
66/213	Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

66/214	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 8)
66/218	Operational activities for development of the United Nations system
66/219	South-South cooperation
66/220	Agriculture development and food security (subprogrammes 1, 2, 4 and 6)
66/223	Towards global partnership

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

37 (IV)	Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East
1895 (LVII)	Change of name of the "Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East" to "Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific"
1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
2005/305	Promoting coordination and consolidation of the work of the functional commissions
2007/29	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in the light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16
2007/30	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development (subprogrammes 1, 2, 4 and 6)
2007/31	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
2007/33	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2008/2	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2008/7	Restructuring of the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
2008/28	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on strengthening efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, including through the global partnership for development, adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2007 of the Economic and Social Council

2008/29	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in the light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16
2008/36	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
2008/37	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
2009/1	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2009/12	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2009/28	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2008 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development"
2009/30	A strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up (subprogrammes 1, 2, 4 and 6)
2009/31	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
2010/9	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twelfth session
2010/12	Promoting social integration
2010/22	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2010/26	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference (subprogrammes 1, 2, 4 and 6)
2010/27	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010
2010/29	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2011/6	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

2011/7	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2011/9	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020
2011/20	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its thirteenth session
2011/38	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development (subprogrammes 1 and 2)
2011/40	Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

61/11	Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries (subprogrammes 2 and 3)
62/1	Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCAP region
62/2	Jakarta Declaration on enhancing regional cooperation in infrastructure development, including that related to disaster management (subprogrammes 1, 3, 4 and 5)
63/1	Almaty Declaration: commemorating the sixtieth anniversary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
63/4	Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCAP region
63/5	Midterm review of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries (subprogrammes 2, 3 and 8)
64/1	Restructuring of the conference structure of the Commission
64/6	Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in the ESCAP region
65/6	Support for the establishment of an international think tank of landlocked developing countries
66/1	Incheon Declaration
66/3	Implementation of the Dhaka Outcome Document on the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries
66/15	Strengthening of the evaluation function of the secretariat of the Commission

67/1 Ulaanbaatar Declaration: Outcome of the High-level Asia-Pacific Policy Dialogue on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and other Development Gaps Faced by the Landlocked Developing Countries (subprogrammes 1, 2 and 3)

67/14 Cooperation between the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and other United Nations and regional and subregional organizations serving Asia and the Pacific

67/15 Midterm review of the functioning of the conference structure of the Commission

Subprogramme 1
Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development

General Assembly resolutions

62/186 External debt and development: towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries

63/206 External debt and development: towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries

63/229 Role of microcredit and microfinance in the eradication of poverty

63/277 Organization of a United Nations conference at the highest level on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development

63/303 Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development

65/10 Sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth for poverty eradication and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

65/313 Follow-up to the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development

66/187 International financial system and development

66/189 External debt sustainability and development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2005/39 Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific

2007/36 United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development

2011/39 Follow-up to the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development: consideration of the possible establishment of an ad hoc panel of experts

Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

64/7	Financing for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 in the ESCAP region
65/1	Implementation of the Bali Outcome Document in addressing the food, fuel and financial crises
65/4	Strengthening of the Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Secondary Crops Development in Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 2
Trade and investment

General Assembly resolution

66/185	International trade and development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2005/37	Statute of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery
2005/38	Statute of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology

Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

61/3	Statute of the United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery
61/4	Statute of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology
62/6	Managing globalization through strengthened regional cooperation in trade and investment

Subprogramme 3
Transport

General Assembly resolutions

62/244	Improving global road safety
64/255	Improving global road safety

Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

60/4	Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network
62/4	Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network
63/9	Implementation of the Busan Declaration on Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Action Programme for Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase I (2007-2011)
64/4	Implementation of the Seoul Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific

64/5	Establishment of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport
66/4	Implementation of the Bangkok Declaration on Transport Development in Asia
66/5	Implementation of the Jakarta Declaration on Public-Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific
66/6	Improving road safety in Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 4
Environment and development

General Assembly resolutions

58/217	International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015
59/228	Activities undertaken during the International Year of Freshwater, 2003, preparations for the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources
62/8	Overview of United Nations activities relating to climate change
63/210	Reliable and stable transit of energy and its role in ensuring sustainable development and international cooperation
63/281	Climate change and its possible security implications
64/198	Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015
64/292	The human right to water and sanitation
65/151	International Year for Sustainable Energy for All
65/154	International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013
66/197	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
66/200	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind
66/206	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy
66/207	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2006/49	Outcome of the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests
2011/14	Promoting regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy in Asia and the Pacific

Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

61/9	Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific
63/6	Implementation of intercountry energy cooperation to enhance energy security for sustainable development with a view to widening access to energy services in least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States
64/3	Promoting renewables for energy security and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific
67/2	Promoting regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy in Asia and the Pacific
67/3	Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 5
Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction

General Assembly resolutions

60/252	World Summit on the Information Society
61/110	United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response
61/132	Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster
63/217	Natural disasters and vulnerability
64/294	Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the wake of devastating floods in Pakistan
66/71	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
66/184	Information and communications technologies for development
66/199	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
66/211	Science and technology for development
66/227	International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2005/40	Establishment of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development
2006/46	Follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development
2007/8	Flow of information for the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society
2007/14	The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States
2008/3	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2009/7	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2009/8	Science and technology for development
2010/2	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2010/3	Science and technology for development
2011/16	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2011/17	Science and technology for development

Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

61/6	Establishment of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development
62/5	Building the information society in Asia and the Pacific
62/7	Strengthening regional cooperation and coordination of early warning system arrangements for tsunamis through the Multi-Donor Voluntary Trust Fund on Tsunami Early Warning Arrangements in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia
63/10	Review of modalities for regional cooperation in natural disaster management, in particular the establishment of an Asian and Pacific centre for information, communication and space technology-enabled disaster management

64/2	Regional cooperation in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters in Asia and the Pacific
64/10	Review of the operational details of the feasibility study for the establishment of an Asian and Pacific centre for information, communications and space technology-enabled disaster management
65/5	Review of the operational details of the feasibility study for the establishment of an Asian and Pacific centre for information, communication and space technology-enabled disaster management in the Islamic Republic of Iran
66/8	Review of the proposal for the establishment of the Asian and Pacific centre for information, communication and space technology-enabled disaster management in the Islamic Republic of Iran
66/14	Continuation of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development
67/4	Establishment of the Asian and Pacific centre for the development of disaster information management

Subprogramme 6
Social development

General Assembly resolutions

S-26/2	Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS
62/126	Policies and programmes involving youth: youth in the global economy — promoting youth participation in social and economic development
62/127	Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities
62/129	Follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond
62/133	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
62/170	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol
62/178	Organization of the 2008 comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS
63/9	Commemoration of the fifteenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development

63/150	Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities through the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
63/155	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
63/156	Trafficking in women and girls
63/194	Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons
63/225	International migration and development
64/131	Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities
64/133	Follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond
64/134	Proclamation of 2010 as International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding
64/137	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
64/178	Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons
64/216	Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)
64/291	Follow-up to paragraph 143 on human security of the 2005 World Summit Outcome
64/293	United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons
65/69	Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control
65/170	International migration and development
65/174	Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)
65/180	Organization of the 2011 comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS
65/186	Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond
65/187	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
65/190	Trafficking in women and girls

65/228	Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against women
65/234	Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014
65/277	Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: Intensifying our Efforts to Eliminate HIV/AIDS
65/312	Outcome document of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding
66/121	Policies and programmes involving youth
66/122	Promoting social integration through social inclusion
66/123	Cooperatives in social development
66/125	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
66/126	Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family
66/127	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
66/128	Violence against women migrant workers
66/129	Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas
66/130	Women and political participation
66/131	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
66/132	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
66/172	Protection of migrants
66/215	Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)
66/216	Women in development
66/229	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2007/2	The role of the United Nations system in providing full and productive employment and decent work for all
2007/27	Supplement to the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond
2007/32	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
2008/18	Promoting full employment and decent work for all
2008/19	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development
2008/20	Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights
2008/21	Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
2008/33	Strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons
2008/34	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2009/6	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
2009/15	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women
2010/7	Strengthening the institutional arrangements for support of gender equality and the empowerment of women
2010/10	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development
2010/13	Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
2010/14	Future implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
2010/15	Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against women
2010/24	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health adopted at the high-level segment of the 2009 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council
2011/5	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women
2011/19	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

2011/21	Human settlements
2011/27	Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and mainstreaming disability in the development agenda
2011/28	Modalities for the second review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
2011/29	Preparation for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

63/7	International migration and development for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States
63/8	Sustainable financing towards achieving universal health-care coverage in Asia and the Pacific
64/8	Regional implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action and Biwako Plus Five towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific
64/9	Midpoint review of the implementation of the Plan of Action on Population and Poverty adopted at the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference
65/3	High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012
66/9	Full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its regional and global outcomes in the Asia-Pacific region
66/10	Regional call for action to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support in Asia and the Pacific
66/11	Regional preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012
66/12	Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference
67/5	Full and effective implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in the Asia-Pacific region
67/6	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities at ESCAP
67/7	Role of cooperatives in social development in Asia and the Pacific

67/8	Strengthening social protection systems in Asia and the Pacific
67/9	Asia-Pacific regional review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS

Subprogramme 7
Statistics

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2005/13	2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme
2006/6	Strengthening statistical capacity
2011/15	Revision of the statute of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

246 (XLII)	Statistical services in Asia and the Pacific
65/2	Regional technical cooperation and capacity-building in statistics development in Asia and the Pacific
67/10	A core set of economic statistics to guide the improvement of basic economic statistics in Asia and the Pacific
67/11	Strengthening statistical capacity in Asia and the Pacific
67/12	Improvement of civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific
67/13	Revision of the statute of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 8
Subregional activities for development

General Assembly resolutions

63/260	Development-related activities
65/2	Outcome document of the High-level Review Meeting on the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
66/198	Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2009/17	Review of United Nations support for small island developing States
2010/34	Review of United Nations support for small island developing States

Resolutions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

237 (XL)	The Commission's activities in the Pacific
60/6	Revitalization of the United Nations ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre
62/9	Regional follow-up to the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
62/12	Strengthening Pacific island developing countries and territories through regional cooperation
66/2	Five-year Review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
66/7	Pacific Urban Agenda
66/13	Strengthening regional cooperation in North and Central Asia

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Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 17
Economic development in Europe

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Overall orientation

17.1 The programme is under the responsibility of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

17.2 Consistent with the legislative mandates and within existing processes, ECE will promote sustainable development and regional cooperation and integration through (a) policy dialogue, (b) normative work and (c) regional networks of experts.

17.3 The programme will also promote technical cooperation with economies in transition, with a view to assisting them in acceding to and implementing international legal instruments, norms and standards. These less advanced countries will be the main beneficiaries of ECE technical cooperation: policy advice, capacity-building and field projects.

17.4 The programme will be implemented in collaboration with national governments, international, regional, subregional organizations and financial institutions, the private sector, academia, civil society and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

17.5 Due consideration will be given to the gender dimension of development, given that women constitute half of the population and are active agents and beneficiaries of sustainable development in the region. Gender equality and the empowerment of women are cross-cutting issues of ECE subprogrammes. In addition, the programme will focus on women in the economy and promote women's entrepreneurship in the region.

17.6 ECE will also pursue system-wide coherence in programme delivery to avoid overlap and reduce duplication, multiply effect, increase impact and ensure sustainability of its work. To this end, ECE will contribute to the work of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, the Inter-agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, UN-Energy and UN-Water at the global level. At the regional level, the Commission will provide leadership to the Regional Coordination Mechanism and will be actively engaged in the work of the Regional Directors Team for Europe and Central Asia. At the country level, it will assist economies in transition in their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, by supporting the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and One United Nations programmes.

17.7 Cooperation and coordination with other regional commissions will be ensured through regular meetings of the executive secretaries, chiefs of programme planning and focal points either directly or through the Regional Commissions New York Office.

17.8 The United Nations Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia, jointly implemented by ECE and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), will serve as the major framework for cooperation of ECE with other relevant stakeholders in Central Asia, in particular the International Fund for the Aral Sea, the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy in Central Asia and the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan.

17.9 Greening the economy is the overarching theme of the ECE programme in this biennium. The theme will enable the Commission to ensure synergies and linkages among all eight of its subprogrammes: (1) environment; (2) transport; (3) statistics; (4) economic cooperation and integration; (5) sustainable energy; (6) trade; (7) forestry and timber; and (8) housing, land management and population. It will also put the work of the Commission in a broader context of sustainable development based on three interdependent and mutually supportive pillars: economic development; social development; and environmental development.

17.10 Building on the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the post-2015 Millennium Development Goals, ECE, in particular, will promote: (a) regulations that increase safety and efficiency of vehicles, improve road safety and reduce noise, air pollution and carbon dioxide emissions from the transport sector; (b) integrated policies that promote the sustainable development of transport and the transport infrastructure, including intermodal transport (road, rail and inland waterway), urban transport, alternative modes of transport and healthy lifestyles (cycling and walking) in the region; (c) policies for a transition to an economically viable, environmentally friendly and socially inclusive sustainable energy future through energy efficiency, cost-effective renewable energy and cleaner electricity production; (d) policies for affordable and energy-efficient housing; (e) methods for monitoring environmental vulnerabilities and sustainable development; (f) policies for the sustainable management of natural resources (water, forestry, land); (g) best practices in innovative, knowledge-based development and private-public partnerships; and (h) trade standards and regulations that reduce hazards and risks.

17.11 To ensure linkages between those areas of work and employment, decent work and poverty reduction, ECE will strengthen its strategic partnership with relevant United Nations system and international organizations, including the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration, the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Conference for Trade and Development, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme.

17.12 As a follow-up to the Seventh "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conference, held from 21 to 23 September 2011 in Astana, Kazakhstan, ECE will promote the implementation of the Regional Roadmap for the Green Economy and the Astana Water Action.

Subprogramme 1
Environment

Objective of the Organization: To safeguard the environment and health, improve environmental management throughout the region and further promote integration of environmental policies into sectoral policies and of environmental concerns into the economy

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved response to environmental challenges in the ECE region by ECE constituencies	(a) (i) Number of regional and subregional measures taken by ECE constituencies in response to existing and emerging environmental challenges (ii) Number of ECE constituencies to which technical assistance and/or advisory services were provided
(b) Strengthened implementation of ECE regional environmental commitments	(b) Increased number of parties reporting progress in implementing legally binding instruments
(c) Strengthened national capacity for environmental monitoring and assessment systems in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe	(c) Increased number of countries using the ECE guidelines for applying environmental indicators
(d) Improved environmental performance in countries with economies in transition	(d) Increased number of countries showing progress in environmental performance

Strategy

17.13 The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Environment Division. In line with its objective, the subprogramme will emphasize a country needs-based approach in carrying out its activities. It will focus on building the capacity of the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe in environmental policy and management, including for the effective implementation of environmental legislation.

17.14 The subprogramme will continue to conduct environmental performance reviews and assist countries to implement the recommendations of their national environmental performance reviews. Furthermore, it will monitor the impact of such recommendations on policy formulation and implementation. The subprogramme will also assist to build capacity for environmental observation and reporting, which will contribute in providing timely and accurate environmental data to improve monitoring and assessment in these countries. The ECE guidelines on the application of environmental indicators will be further promoted for use by member States for environmental monitoring and assessment.

17.15 While taking into account the Millennium Development Goals, the subprogramme will further promote sustainable development in the ECE region and

the implementation of the outcomes of regional environment and sustainable development conferences, in particular the outcomes of the Seventh "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conference (Astana, Kazakhstan, 2011).

17.16 Actions will be taken to further integrate environment into other sectoral policies through intersectoral programmes and projects, including education for sustainable development; transport, health and environment; as well as water and health. Particular attention will be given to activities in the field of green economy. The Commission will also improve cross-border environmental security in cooperation with other regional and international organizations. Cross-sectoral work will also include the promotion of synergies and cooperation between the ECE legally binding instruments.

17.17 Emphasis will be placed on supporting the implementation of regional and subregional agreements and action programmes, as well as multi-stakeholder processes and partnerships resulting from, inter alia, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Subprogramme 2
Transport

Objective of the Organization: To promote the international movement of goods and mobility of persons by inland transport modes and improve traffic safety, environmental performance, energy efficiency and security in the transport sector to levels that contribute effectively to sustainable development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened legal and regulatory framework for international land transport (road, rail, inland waterway and intermodal transport), including transport infrastructure, border-crossing facilitation, transport of dangerous goods, vehicle construction and other transport-related services	(a) (i) Increased share of legal instruments administered by ECE in force relative to the total number of United Nations legal instruments on transport which are administered by ECE (ii) Number of new vehicle regulations and amendments (iii) Number of international legal instruments amended to reflect the latest revised edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(b) Greater geographical coverage and more effective implementation of ECE legal instruments and recommendations on transport	(b) (i) Increased number of Contracting Parties to United Nations legal instruments on transport administered by ECE

	(ii) Number of mechanisms in place for monitoring the implementation as agreed by member States
(c) Enhanced capacity in ECE member States, particularly in landlocked developing countries, for the development of the pan-European and transcontinental transport infrastructure and transport facilitation measures	(c) (i) Increased number of Contracting Parties to four key transport infrastructure agreements
	(ii) Increased number of United Nations Member States participating in ECE subregional transport infrastructure projects
(d) Strengthened capacity to implement relevant ECE legal instruments, norms and standards, in particular in the countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia	(d) (i) Percentage of participants who rated workshops, seminars and other capacity-building activities as useful for their future work
	(ii) Increased number of ECE member States having established road safety improvement targets

Strategy

17.18 The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Transport Division. The subprogramme will focus on four broad functional areas: (a) further development of legal and regulatory framework for international land transport; (b) improved implementations of the existing legal and regulatory framework; (c) strengthening of the national capacity for the development of pan-European and transcontinental transport infrastructure as well as transport and trade facilitation; and (d) capacity-building activities in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

17.19 Further development of the legal and regulatory framework for international land transport will be achieved through new instruments and recommendations on various transport areas as well as through the updating and improvement of the 58 existing agreements, regulations and recommendations. This will cover all modes of inland transport (road, rail, inland waterway and intermodal), as well as areas of special interest, for example, vehicle regulations and transport of dangerous goods. This will be achieved through active collaboration with member Governments and other stakeholders, consensus building and reaching agreements at relevant ECE intergovernmental meetings on transport, as well as through the work of administrative committees of conventions and agreements.

17.20 The Secretariat will intensify efforts to promote new accessions to the United Nations legal instruments administered by ECE. Their implementation will be promoted and surveyed through improved monitoring mechanisms. To this end, the incorporation of certain United Nations legal instruments (for example, vehicle regulations and transport of dangerous goods) in the European Union Community *acquis* by the European Commission will continue to play an important role.

17.21 To promote pan-European and Euro-Asian economic integration, emphasis will be placed on regional and subregional cooperation activities, particularly in

support for the development of transport infrastructure. Development of Euro-Asian Transport Links will be promoted in cooperation with ESCAP, other international organizations and member States. Strengthening of transport links between Europe and Africa and between Europe and the Middle East, including across the Mediterranean, will be promoted in cooperation with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. Transport and trade facilitation will focus on transit and border-crossing facilitation. In particular, it will be mainstreamed, inter alia, through the implementation of the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, including pilot projects for the measurement of border-crossing performance. The special needs of landlocked transition economies and their transit neighbours will be addressed through technical assistance and analytical work.

17.22 Special attention will be given to further strengthening national capacity of countries in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia to implement relevant ECE legal instruments, norms and standards through advisory missions, seminars and workshops. Capacity-building activities will be organized in cooperation with interested Governments requesting such assistance, and with the assistance of international experts and staff of the Division.

17.23 Cooperation and partnerships will be strengthened with the European Union and other international organizations active in the field of transport, such as the International Transport Forum. In order to improve global road safety in response to General Assembly resolutions, cooperation will continue with the other regional commissions and with all other partners of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration. The public-private dialogue will be scaled up through closer cooperation with non-governmental organizations representing transport operators, relevant industries, transport users and consumers.

17.24 The work on new multisectoral projects will continue, with particular attention to improving energy efficiency of road vehicles in response to global warming concerns, while existing projects (inter alia, on transport health and environment, trade and transport facilitation, global supply chains and competitiveness) will be carried out and completed through the work of expert groups, in collaboration with interested member States and other stakeholders.

17.25 The Division will continue to service the Economic and Social Council Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and its subsidiary bodies.

Subprogramme 3
Statistics

Objective of the Organization: To improve the quality of official statistics at the national and international levels, and to ensure the coordination of international statistical activities undertaken in the ECE region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Streamlined international statistical work	(a) (i) Number of international organizations regularly reporting their activities to the Database of International Statistical Activities maintained by ECE
	(ii) Number of statistical areas reviewed in depth by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians
(b) Updated and newly developed standards, methodologies and practices to enhance international comparability of statistics	(b) (i) Number of new or revised international statistical standards and/or recommendations developed with ECE contribution
	(ii) Number of statistical areas (according to the Database of International Statistical Activities classification) to which ECE makes substantive methodological contribution
(c) Improved national capacities to implement international standards in official statistics, including Millennium Development Goals and gender-sensitive indicators, by ECE member States, particularly by those with less advanced statistical systems	(c) (i) Number of ECE member States which develop and implement national strategies for sustainable development of statistics in line with recommendations of global assessments
	(ii) Percentage of national experts that express satisfaction with the relevance and quality of ECE advisory services, training courses and workshops
(d) Improved availability in the ECE database of reliable, relevant, timely and comparable statistics, including Millennium Development Goals indicators and gender disaggregated data, to support evidence-based policymaking of ECE member States	(d) (i) Number of statistical data time series available in the ECE database
	(ii) Percentage of users that express satisfaction with the quality, coverage and timeliness of data contained in the ECE database

Strategy

17.26 The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Statistical Division. The subprogramme aims to improve the quality of official statistics for evidence-

based economic, social and environmental policymaking, and for assessing progress towards international development goals.

17.27 Coordinating international statistical activities in the region will remain a central component of the strategy under the subprogramme. The strong involvement of national statistical organizations in setting the priorities will ensure that the work focuses on issues of current concern for countries. Cooperation with the statistical services of other international organizations will continue in the form of joint meetings and working groups to develop methodologies, standards, recommendations and best practices. The subprogramme will maintain a Database of International Statistical Activities as a tool to support coordination.

17.28 The subprogramme will focus on a selected number of subject areas, in particular those where ECE can provide added value and complement the international statistical work. The work will be undertaken in close cooperation with experts from ECE member States and international organizations in the form of expert groups that perform specific tasks within a set time frame. The work will result in the development of methodological and practical guidelines and leading practices in statistics, including training materials available on the Web. Public access to all related documents will ensure transparency and accountability.

17.29 The subprogramme will provide support to the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia as well as South-East Europe regarding existing United Nations standards and best practices and their implementation at the national level. To this end, the subprogramme will promote the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and provide advice on institutional frameworks of official statistics, for example, by conducting global assessments of national statistical systems. The advisory work will be demand-driven, focusing on areas where United Nations standards and recommendations exist, such as population censuses, the Millennium Development Goals, national accounts, prices, business statistics, gender disaggregated statistics, environmental indicators and streamlining statistical production.

17.30 The subprogramme will collect and disseminate economic and social data, including on progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and gender equality. Data will be accessible to the public on the Internet. A quality framework will ensure the relevance, timeliness and user-friendliness of data dissemination. The data will offer insights into national statistics and help to identify priorities for improvement of the quality and comparability of official statistics.

Subprogramme 4
Economic cooperation and integration

Objective of the Organization: To promote a policy, financial and regulatory environment more conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities in the ECE region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased knowledge of good practices and policies on financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness of enterprises and economic activities leading to the formulation of related ECE policy recommendations	(a) Number of policy recommendations resulting from the exchange of good practices and policy experience among member States
(b) Enhanced implementation of the aforementioned ECE policy recommendations	(b) Increased number of measures taken by Governments and other stakeholders to implement the policy recommendations
(c) Strengthened national capacity in countries with economies in transition to promote good practices and implement the aforementioned ECE policy recommendations	(c) Increased number of country-level activities resulting from ECE capacity-building events and training materials

Strategy

17.31 The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division. In order to achieve its objective, the subprogramme will take up key aspects of knowledge-based economic development, economic cooperation and integration and focus mainly on countries with economies in transition. It will facilitate the application of experience gained, lessons learned and good practices conducive to economic growth and innovative development. Building on the normative work carried out within the subprogramme and reflecting the changing needs of member States, recommendations will be drawn aimed at improving policies, as well as developing a sound financial and regulatory environment for economic development, investment and innovation. Drawing on progress achieved during the period 2010-2013, policy advisory services and capacity-building activities to requesting countries will be organized on the basis of the related policy dialogue, exchange of experiences and good practices, as well as guidelines and other policy-related documents. Efforts will be made to raise further the profile of technical cooperation activities under the subprogramme while preserving a balance between policy-oriented normative work and technical cooperation.

17.32 Building, inter alia, on relevant work carried out by other organizations and institutions, as well as contributions mobilized from external experts, advisers and decision makers, in particular those from countries with economies in transition, an enhanced exchange of experience and policy debate among member States and other stakeholders will be prioritized. Thematic teams of specialists and networks of experts involving representatives of Governments, international organizations,

business associations and other stakeholders will provide a platform for the exchange of national policy experience and the identification of good practices. Subsequently, member States are expected to apply these outputs in drawing up relevant policy recommendations, guidelines and other regulatory and normative measures. The results of the subprogramme's work will be broadly disseminated to all interested stakeholders and will serve as the basis for technical cooperation activities organized by the Secretariat in cooperation with Member States, such as policy advisory services and capacity-building workshops, including within the framework of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia. Drawing on the achievements in policy-oriented normative work and advisory technical cooperation services, wider implementation of policy recommendations developed under the subprogramme will be pursued.

Subprogramme 5
Sustainable energy

Objective of the Organization: To move towards a more sustainable development path for the production and use of energy and the fuller integration of the energy infrastructure and energy markets of the countries in the region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved international dialogue among governments, industry and other stakeholders on sustainable energy issues, in particular, energy security, energy affordability and energy-related environmental impacts	(a) (i) Increased percentage of participants who contribute to policy discussions on securing affordable and sustainable energy (ii) Increased percentage of respondents to a web-based survey on sustainable energy issues who find participation in policy dialogue useful
(b) Improved overall energy efficiency, including energy efficiency market formation across the ECE region	(b) (i) Increased number of energy efficiency investment projects developed under the ECE energy efficiency 21 programmes that have been approved for financing in economies in transition (ii) Increased number of national representatives and experts able to identify, develop and submit project proposals for energy efficiency investments
(c) Strengthened formulation and implementation of ECE recommendations/ guidelines, best practices and other normative instruments for sustainable energy development	(c) (i) Increased number of countries that apply the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources in their fossil energy and uranium resources management (ii) Increased number of capacity-building events to disseminate coal mine methane best practices globally

Strategy

17.33 Responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Sustainable Energy Division. The subprogramme will promote cooperation and policy dialogue among governments, energy industries and other stakeholders to foster sustainable energy development in member States. The focus of the subprogramme will be on securing an affordable and sustainable energy supply and enhancing progress towards a sustainable energy future in the region. The subprogramme will engage with all members of the United Nations energy community across the range of its activities, with special attention to global processes and mechanisms. ECE will also engage with other regional commissions to accelerate the uptake of economic energy efficient technology, to support cost-effective programmes and policies for new and renewable energy sources, to improve the economic productivity of the full energy value chain, and to disseminate knowledge and approaches with global application.

17.34 The subprogramme will work to improve the overall efficiency of the energy system, from source to use, in order to ensure full and fair access to energy services, improve the energy intensity of ECE economies and reduce progressively the carbon intensity of the sector, including, among other things, the cost-effective introduction of new and renewable energy sources. The subprogramme will work to provide, as needed, policy support, capacity-building and performance benchmarking on energy productivity on behalf of member States. It will promote effective energy network systems across the region tailored to optimize operating efficiencies, improve overall regional cooperation and achieve sustained improvements in energy efficiency. ECE will continue to coordinate its activities with other international organizations to ensure the efficient use of resources and avoid duplication. The subprogramme will support projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and will promote projects for gas infrastructure and transportation networks. In order to promote energy efficiency improvements and progress with new and renewable energy sources at the global level, ECE will develop a more systematic exchange of experiences on capacity-building, policy reforms, performance benchmarking and investment project finance among countries of other regions, in cooperation with other United Nations regional commissions. The subprogramme will assist member States in integrating their energy economies and infrastructure more fully into the region and the global economy, increasing energy security, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting the cost-effective use of new and renewable energy sources, enhancing the performance of energy industries and contributing to the long-term supply of fossil fuels through the adoption of normative instruments.

17.35 The subprogramme will contribute to the development, extension and implementation of ECE policy recommendations and normative instruments and assist Member States through training programmes, technical assistance, preparation of investment projects, and monitoring and reporting on progress and performance.

Subprogramme 6
Trade

Objective of the Organization: To facilitate trade and trade-related economic cooperation among countries of the ECE region and with the rest of the world

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Adoption and increased implementation by member States of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools for trade facilitation and electronic business	(a) (i) The number of new and/or revised ECE recommendations, norms, standards and tools for trade facilitation and electronic business approved by member States
	(ii) The number of downloads of key trade facilitation and electronic business recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools from the ECE Internet site, as a proxy for their use
	(iii) The number of countries in which ECE took action in response to their requests for assistance in the promotion and implementation of trade facilitation and electronic business instruments
(b) Adoption by member States of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools for regulatory cooperation	(b) The number of new and/or revised recommendations and tools for regulatory cooperation approved by member States
(c) Adoption and increased implementation by member States of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools for agricultural quality standards	(c) (i) The number of new and/or revised recommendations and standards on agriculture produce adopted by member States
	(ii) The total number of implementations of ECE agricultural quality standards by member States
	(iii) The number of downloads of recommendations and standards on agricultural produce from the ECE Internet site, as a proxy for their use
(d) Enhanced national capacity of member States for trade policy development and implementation	(d) (i) The number of national action matrices for trade development agreed upon with countries
	(ii) The number of national trade needs assessments with recommendations approved by beneficiary countries

17.36 The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Trade and Sustainable Land Management Division. The subprogramme supports Millennium Development Goal 8 by contributing to the establishment of an open, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory trading system, especially in the less economically developed and landlocked countries of the ECE region. It also takes into account the importance accorded to trade as a key vehicle for economic growth, the elimination of poverty, and greater regional cooperation and stability in other major United Nations outcomes.

17.37 The subprogramme will aim to reduce barriers to trade caused by differences in trade procedures, standards and documents, as well as differences in regulatory approaches and standards for manufactured and agricultural products that hamper market access. More concretely, it will develop and promote:

(a) Simple, transparent and effective processes for global commerce through the development and maintenance of international trade facilitation instruments, especially to support international supply chains and the integration of countries into the global economy. These instruments include global standards and best practices for moving from paper-based to automated electronic processes and for the harmonization and simplification of business practices used in international trade;

(b) A predictable, transparent and harmonized regulatory environment for commerce and business through strengthening of the convergence of regulations, as well as through the promotion of international standards and best practices in areas of regulatory cooperation, conformity assessment and market surveillance;

(c) Trade in agricultural produce through the development of up-to-date agricultural quality standards used by Governments for regulatory purposes and the private sector, as well as through explanatory brochures based on these standards in cooperation with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables, and the Codex Alimentarius Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.

17.38 The subprogramme will also support Governments, with a special emphasis on the less economically developed and landlocked countries of the region, in the national and regional adaptation and implementation of ECE trade-related standards and recommendations, including their integration into national and regional trade facilitation strategies, trade policy and regulatory regimes.

17.39 The subprogramme will draw on the work of its intergovernmental bodies and expert groups and will reinforce cooperation with principal partners, which include international organizations such as the World Trade Organization, the International Organization for Standardization, the World Customs Organization, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, FAO, the Bank for International Settlements, the World Bank, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and other United Nations regional commissions; subregional groupings and organizations such as the European Commission, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Eurasian Economic Community, the Eurasian Economic Commission, the Central European Initiative; and a wide variety of private sector organizations.

Subprogramme 7
Forestry and timber

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen the forest sector and its contribution to sustainable development throughout the ECE region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased understanding and better monitoring of the forest sector, to support sustainable forest management	(a) (i) Increased percentage of ECE member States able to provide satisfactory data on qualitative indicators of sustainable forest management (ii) Increased percentage of ECE member States able to provide satisfactory data on quantitative indicators of sustainable forest management (iii) Percentage of ECE member States able to provide satisfactory responses to the ECE/FAO/International Tropical Timber Organization/Eurostat joint forest sector questionnaire (which monitors the sound use of wood) (iv) Percentage of policymakers and other stakeholders who regard selected policy forums and workshops as useful
(b) Increased capacity of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-East Europe to achieve sustainable forest management at the national level	(b) Percentage of participants having used the information provided at capacity-building activities for policymaking

17.40 The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Trade and Sustainable Land Management Division. The subprogramme will aim to: develop and apply analytical and monitoring tools for use both on policy issues and on developments on the ground; collect, validate and disseminate information and analysis; and stimulate the exchange of experience, best practices and joint efforts to measure progress. In addition, the subprogramme will provide a platform for topical discussions, taking into account the changing policy environment, notably as regards climate change and bioenergy. It will promote the role of forests in mitigating and adapting to climate change.

17.41 The subprogramme will promote the sustainable management of forests and the sound and legal use of forest products, for raw material and energy as well as forest services, based on appropriate policies and institutions. Priorities for 2014-2015 will be guided by: (a) the outcomes of work of ECE Timber Committee and European Forestry Commission (FAO); (b) relevant outcomes of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, which took place in June 2011; (c) continued efforts to address climate change and the transition to a green economy; and (d) the results of the strategic review conducted in 2012-2013.

17.42 While all ECE countries benefit from international cooperation through the subprogramme, special attention will be paid to the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Mediterranean region to implement sustainable forest management through capacity-building activities, and by promoting their involvement in international activities in the region.

17.43 As part of the strategy to implement the subprogramme, ECE will carry out its work in cooperation with FAO and the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Forest Europe), and provide regional input to the United Nations Forum on Forests and the FAO Committee on Forestry.

17.44 To support forest management, including the use of wood and forest products that is ecologically, economically and socially sustainable, it is necessary: (a) to maintain a good balance among these factors, based on a strong consensus among all stakeholders about goals and methods; and (b) to ensure that the strategy is well integrated into the policy framework of other sectors through a cross-sectoral approach. Achieving sustainable forest management is primarily a sovereign national responsibility. However, regional international cooperation and interregional cooperation, through the forestry and timber subprogramme and its partners, will contribute by developing and disseminating concepts and information, through the communication, sharing of experiences and definition of standard measurement tools (criteria and indicators) for sustainable forest management. At the same time, the changing needs of society and the impact of global developments will be guiding factors at the regional level.

Subprogramme 8
Housing, land management and population

Objective of the Organization: To improve the housing, urban and land governance in the region as well as the necessary knowledge base on population issues, by strengthening the formulation and implementation of policies, enhancing social cohesion and developing capacities at the national and local levels

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved capacity for policy formulation and implementation in housing, planning and land administration in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, and South-Eastern Europe	(a) (i) Increased number of countries that are engaged in ECE results-oriented assessment of their housing policies and land administration systems (ii) Increased number of countries that report on their measures to improve housing policies and land management practices

(b) Strengthened implementation by countries of ECE guidelines on housing and land management, including on energy efficiency, informal settlements, transparency in land and real estate markets and on improved safety in buildings	(b) Increased number of countries that report on their measures to implement ECE guidelines
(c) Enhanced national policy formulation on population ageing and intergenerational and gender relations	(c) Increased number of countries that have adjusted their policies or introduced new measures for implementing the ECE Regional Strategy on Ageing

17.45 The subprogramme consists of two components with the responsibility vested in two Divisions: (a) Housing and Land Management in the Trade and Sustainable Land Management Division, and (b) Population in the Statistics Division.

17.46 The housing and land management component of the subprogramme works to improve housing, as well as urban and land governance, in the region. It also promotes the implementation of: (a) the ECE strategy for a sustainable quality of life in human settlements in the twenty-first century, and (b) the Ministerial Declaration on Social and Economic Challenges in Distressed Urban Areas in the ECE Region. To achieve the expected results, the subprogramme will provide a forum for policy dialogue and exchange of experience, develop policy guidance and organize capacity-building activities in the areas of housing and land management to promote the implementation of ECE guidance and policy recommendations. This work, in particular, will focus on housing policy formulation and implementation, sustainable, energy-efficient housing, effective maintenance and management of the housing stock, increasing transparency in real estate markets, effective land administration and spatial planning.

17.47 In order to contribute to the efficient and transparent governance and improvement of the urban environment, continued efforts will be made to analyse and review the existing housing situation, including maintenance, renewal and new construction, energy efficiency measures and safety in buildings, legislation and housing finance. This process will lead to the development of policy recommendations and related capacity-building activities.

17.48 The housing and land management component of the subprogramme will also promote the implementation of ECE guidance in the areas of housing, including affordable and energy-efficient housing, informal settlements, climate neutral urban development and transparent real estate markets. In the area of land management, emphasis will be placed on the upgrading of land and real estate systems in order to provide secure ownership in land, ensure other private and public rights in real estate, and encourage investment. These objectives will be promoted through capacity-building activities, while regional model programmes and pilot projects, as well as public-private partnerships, will be encouraged.

17.49 The integration of housing policy with spatial planning, land administration, population and environmental policy will be promoted through policy recommendations and related capacity-building activities, with a special emphasis

on such cross-sectoral issues as urban response to climate change, energy efficiency in the housing sector and the housing needs of low-income segments of society.

17.50 The population component of the subprogramme works to ensure the implementation of the ECE Regional Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing with a view to meeting the challenges arising from demographic change and releasing the unused potential of some population groups, in particular, older persons. It provides a platform for intergovernmental policy debate on matters relating to ageing and facilitates communication between a wider network of experts and non-governmental organizations. It also provides opportunities for exchange of experiences and best practices. It improves evidence-based policymaking and monitoring of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing by coordinating data collection and policy-oriented research on population ageing and intergenerational and gender relations.

17.51 The population component of the subprogramme also provides support to the development of national capacities for policy formulation in response to demographic change by providing policy advice on national action plans on ageing as well as capacity-building (training, workshops, seminars to national specialists and government officials).

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
57/270 B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
61/16	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
61/210	Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy
62/208	Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
62/277	System-wide coherence
63/11	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
63/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe
63/15	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community

63/239	Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus
63/281	Climate change and its possible security implications
64/141	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
64/193	Follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the 2008 Review Conference (Doha Declaration on Financing for Development)
64/208	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
64/210	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
64/217	Women in development
64/236	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
65/1	Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals
65/10	Sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth for poverty eradication and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
65/124	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
65/129	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
65/152	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
65/159	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind
65/172	Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

65/174	Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)
65/185	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
65/285	Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
65/313	Follow-up to the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development
65/314	Modalities for the fifth High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
2006/14	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/250 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
2009/12	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2009/28	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of the 2008 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council
2009/29	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16
2010/2	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2010/22	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

2010/24	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health adopted at the high-level segment of the 2009 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council
2010/29	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2011/5	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women
2011/6	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2011/12	Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar

Economic and Social Council decisions

1997/224	Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and Plan of Action
2011/247	Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-fourth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its forty-fifth session

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

E/ECE/1434/ Rev.1	Work Plan on ECE Reform
A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe

Subprogramme 1
Environment

General Assembly resolutions

58/217	International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015
58/219	United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 2005-2014

Economic and Social Council resolution

2003/61	Future programme, organization and methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

ECE/AC.21/2002/8	Declaration on the establishment of a Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) adopted by the Second High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment
ECE/AC.21/2009/2	Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment on its third session
ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/2/Add.1	Ministerial Declaration "Save water, grow green!", 2011

Subprogramme 2
Transport

General Assembly resolutions

58/9	Global road safety crisis
58/201	Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries
63/2	Outcome document of the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries
64/255	Improving global road safety

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1999/65	Reconfiguration of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods into a Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
2011/25	Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

ECE/AC.21/2002/8	Declaration on the establishment of a Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) adopted by the Second High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health

ECE/AC.21/2009/2	Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment on its third session

Subprogramme 3
Statistics

General Assembly resolutions

63/155	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
64/132	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
65/170	International migration and development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1993/5	1993 System of National Accounts
2006/6	Strengthening statistical capacity
2005/13	2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme

Economic Commission for Europe decision

C (47)	The Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in the Region of the Economic Commission of Europe

United Nations Statistical Commission decisions

38/111	Statistical capacity-building
39/111	Collection and dissemination of statistics by the United Nations Statistics Division
39/112	Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata
39/114	Development indicators
40/105	National accounts
40/110	Gender statistics
41/106	National accounts
42/102	Gender statistics
42/107	Short-term economic indicators
42/111	Implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

Subprogramme 4
Economic cooperation and integration

General Assembly resolutions

63/303	Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development
64/223	Towards global partnerships
65/125	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
65/128	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
65/141	Information and communications technologies for development
65/168	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Economic and Social Council resolution

2007/30	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

Subprogramme 5
Sustainable energy

General Assembly resolutions

64/206	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy
65/125	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community

Economic and Social Council resolution

2003/61	Future programme, organization and methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development

Economic and Social Council decisions

1997/226	United Nations International Framework Classification for Energy Reserves/Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities
2004/233	United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources
2011/222	Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines

Subprogramme 6
Trade

General Assembly resolutions

63/2	Outcome document of the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries
65/140	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference
65/141	Information and communications technologies for development
65/142	International trade and development
65/172	Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1991/76	Promotion of interregional cooperation in the area of international trade facilitation
2004/64	International Conference on Financing for Development
2006/46	Follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Economic and Social Council decision

1997/225	Economic Commission for Europe Recommendation 25, entitled "Use of the UN/EDIFACT Standard"

Subprogramme 7
Forestry and timber

General Assembly resolutions

54/218	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
62/98	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests

Economic and Social Council resolution

2006/49	Outcome of the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

Other — United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1992)

A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1	Non-Legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all Types of Forests

Subprogramme 8
Housing, land management and population

General Assembly resolutions

57/275	Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
64/132	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
64/207	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
65/182	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
65/234	Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014

Economic and Social Council resolution

2010/14	Future implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

United Nations Commission on Population and Development resolutions

2004/2	Follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
2009/1	The contribution of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

United Nations Commission for Social Development resolution

47/3 (2009)	First review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

ECE/AC.23/2002/2/Rev.6	Regional Implementation Strategy of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
ECE/AC.30/2007/6	Leon Ministerial Declaration "A Society for all Ages: Challenges and Opportunities"
ECE/HBP/120	Strategy for a sustainable quality of life in human settlements in the twenty-first century, endorsed at a ministerial meeting in 2000
ECE/HBP/142/Add.1	Ministerial Declaration on "Social and Economic Challenges in Distressed Urban Areas in the UNECE Region", adopted in 2006